

Allyson Coffin  
Cumberland  
LD 790

Subject: Support for LD 790 – An Act to Prevent Access Denial of Patient Access Through Collaborative Care

Dear Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services,

I am writing to express my strong support for LD 790, An Act to Prevent Access Denial of Patient Access Through Collaborative Care, sponsored by Senator Baldacci. As a chiropractor practicing in Maine, I have witnessed firsthand the profound benefits of a collaborative, patient-centered approach to health care. This bill is essential in ensuring that no health care provider can restrict a patient's right to seek care from another qualified provider acting within the scope of their license.

Every patient deserves access to the full range of health care options that best serve their needs. Unfortunately, instances arise where certain providers or systems attempt to limit or discourage access to chiropractic care and other licensed health professionals, often to the detriment of the patient. These restrictions can lead to delayed treatment, increased costs, and unnecessary suffering. LD 790 is a necessary step in protecting patient autonomy and ensuring that Maine's residents receive the care they need without interference.

Chiropractors, like other licensed providers, play a critical role in Maine's health care system, particularly in managing musculoskeletal conditions, pain relief, and overall wellness. Research consistently supports the effectiveness of chiropractic care in reducing reliance on opioids, decreasing the burden on primary care physicians, and improving patient outcomes. Collaborative care models—where patients can freely choose the most appropriate providers for their needs—have been shown to enhance overall health care quality and efficiency.

Passing LD 790 will uphold patient choice, promote interdisciplinary cooperation, and remove unnecessary barriers to care. I urge you to support this bill to ensure that Maine residents continue to have access to a health care system that prioritizes their well-being over restrictive policies.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide any additional insights or share experiences from my practice regarding the importance of collaborative care.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Allyson Coffin